

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

3/9/15

The Hadley School for the Blind offers the following online course
(<http://www.hadley.edu/ShowCourseDetail.asp?courseid=TAD-301#>)

Teaching Children with Blindness and Additional Disabilities

Written by experts in the fields of multiple disabilities, this course provides information on how to work with children with specific disabilities and visual impairment, and presents teaching strategies. The disabilities discussed include intellectual disabilities, autism spectrum disorder (ASD), deafblindness, learning disabilities, and cortical visual impairment (CVI). Examining specific disabilities and strategies to promote learning and independence will help educators successfully work with children with multiple disabilities.

Course: TAD-301

Media: OL

Lessons: 7

Maximum Completion Time: 3 1/2 months

Credit: 3 CEUs

Tuition: NO CHARGE

 [Course Details](#)

Teaching Children with Blindness and Additional Disabilities

Course ID: TAD-201, TAD-301

Audience

HSPS (primary audience) and Family programs

Course Description

Paraeducators and educators new to working with children with blindness and additional disabilities may feel overwhelmed when trying to provide an appropriate education. Written by experts in the fields of multiple disabilities, this course provides introductory information on teaching strategies. It also provides information on how to work with children with specific disabilities and visual impairment. These disabilities include intellectual disabilities, autism spectrum disorder (ASD), deafblindness, learning disabilities, and cortical visual impairment (CVI). The lessons emphasize that each child with multiple disabilities is unique, just as each child without disabilities is unique. And each child is much more than his or her disability or disabilities! Examining specific disabilities and strategies to promote learning and independence will help educators successfully work with children with multiple disabilities.

Media: The course is available online.

Organization: seven lessons

Credit: 3 CEUs

Prerequisite: none

Overview: Students submit seven assignments.

Grading: Letter grades

Average Completion Time: 3 1/2 months

Objectives and Content

Lesson 1: Introduction to Teaching Children with Blindness and Additional Disabilities

After completing this lesson, the student will be able to

- discuss the variety of children who are visually impaired with additional disabilities
- explain the U.S. right to a free appropriate public education
- describe how children with visual impairments and additional disabilities are assessed
- identify members of the educational team
- contrast Common Core State Standards and the expanded core curriculum (ECC)
- define individual learning styles and universal design of learning principles
- give examples of ways to encourage independence and good behavior and to prevent bullying
- describe the role of the paraeducator

Lesson 2: Intellectual Disabilities and Visual Impairment

After completing this lesson, the student will be able to

- explain how assessment and Common Core State Standards lead to appropriate expectations and goals
- create appropriate goals and activities
- describe how to interact with the whole team to facilitate learning and growth
- explain how to use appropriate techniques
- discuss effective ways to use appropriate alternative and augmentative communication

Lesson 3: Autism Spectrum Disorder and Visual Impairment

After completing this lesson, the student will be able to

- explain why labels by themselves have no meaning
- identify assessment considerations
- discuss the role of assessment in developing a comprehensive program of instruction
- identify critical strategies for sensory needs, communication, and concrete supports
- describe critical strategies for systematic instruction, prompting, and reinforcement
- explain how to generalize learned skills

Lesson 4: Deafblindness

After completing this lesson, the student will be able to

- define deafblindness
- describe how deafblindness impacts learning
- explain the role of touch in learning
- discuss the impact of deafblindness on communication
- discuss the impact of deafblindness on social and emotional well-being
- identify effective intervention strategies
- explain the role of the intervener

Lesson 5: Learning Disabilities and Visual Impairment

After completing this lesson, the student will be able to

- define learning disability
- identify types of learning disabilities
- explain how learning disabilities are assessed
- discuss the dual impact of learning disability and visual impairment
- describe general interventions for students with learning disabilities

- give examples of interventions for specific learning disabilities
- identify individual learning styles

Lesson 6: Cortical Visual Impairment

After completing this lesson, the student will be able to

- define CVI
- describe characteristics of CVI
- discuss evaluation strategies
- identify myths about CVI
- give examples of interventions for CVI

Lesson 7: Putting the Pieces Together: Optimizing Learning and Independence

After completing this lesson, the student will be able to

- discuss the value of teamwork and high expectations
- describe the importance of multisensory and hands-on experiences
- describe the role of routines and incidental learning
- explain how to provide support by using prompts and modeling
- list ways to collect data
- suggest ways to help students plan for the future
- identify ways to build strong teams